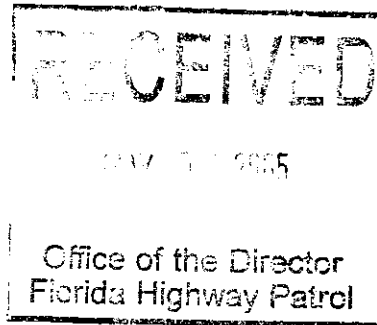


1780 Yancey Circle South
Collierville, TN 38017

April 28, 2005

Colonel Christopher A. Knight
Director
Florida Highway Patrol
Neil Kirkman Building
2900 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32399



Dear Colonel Knight:

I would like to express my gratitude for the assistance one of the Florida Highway Patrol officers gave my husband and me on our recent trip to Florida. Unfortunately, I did not get his name or badge number, but perhaps you can track him down from what I do know.

On Sunday, April 10, 2005, at about 3:15 pm EDT we were on I-75 with our camping rig which consists of a Ford 350 truck and a 24-foot fifth wheel camping trailer. A tire on the left side of the camper blew out and we stopped safely on the side of the highway. We didn't have a spare because the tire that blew was the spare we had put on earlier when the original tire blew. We had just passed the Sun City exit, but it was obvious that there were no facilities there to help us. There was a call box and we used it. In about 15 minutes a Highway Patrol car pulled up. The officer immediately started making calls trying to help us find a tire store that was open on Sunday. All of them we had seen along I-75 were closed. With his help we finally located one in Brandon that was open until 5:00 pm and had what we needed. While my husband got the tire off the camper and the truck unhitched, the officer helped me with the explicit directions we needed to get to the tire dealer. By now it was well after 4:00 and the dealer said we had to get there no later than 5:00. The officer promised the Highway Patrol would keep an eye on our camper and we left. We did make it to the dealer before 5:00 and they took care of us. Then we hurried back fearing that something had happened to our camper in our absence. What a relief to find everything as we left it. By 6:00 we were back on the road and safely made it to our destination on Siesta Key.

Due to all the distractions and anxiety involved with the whole episode, I never got the officer's name or badge number. I did remember to thank him, but I want to make sure that the Florida Highway Patrol knows what a good job he did. He stayed with us until it was clear that we had a workable plan of action and was very helpful in establishing that plan. He seemed to be very concerned about our plight. Please find him and let him know our appreciation.

In closing I would also like to mention what a good idea those call boxes are. We have cell phones, but when you don't know whom to call, they are useless. I wish all the states had call boxes on their highways.

Sincerely,

Linda M. Rooks